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BOX AF  
RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116  
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE  
EXAMINER GROUP 1756

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03560.003343

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Ryo KURODA et al.

Application No.: 10/648,317

Filed: August 27, 2003

For: NEAR-FIELD PHOTOMASK AND NEAR-FIELD  
EXPOSURE APPARATUS INCLUDING THE  
PHOTOMASK (As Amended)

)  
: Examiner: J. S. Ruggles  
)  
: Group Art Unit: 1756  
)  
: Confirmation No.: 3665  
)  
:  
)  
: July 18, 2006

*OK To  
Enter*

Mail Stop AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL ACTION

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed June 12, 2006, please amend the above identified application as follows pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.116: